

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 00481 171927Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 171900Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7349

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0481

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR, CU, BR

SUBJECT: B.A. MFM-CUBA

REF: A. STATE 009023

B. BRASILIA 126

C. BRASILIA WOI

D. STATE 001964

1. I WILL BE SEEING SILVEIRA AT 4:30 PM MONDAY JAN 20 AND
WILL DISCUSS WITH HIM POINTS IN REFTEL A.

2. FROM MY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEN DEALING
WITH SILVEIRA AND HIS CHIEF OF CABINET IN MY ABSENCE,
I BELIEVE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE
BRAZILIAN SIDE OF EITHER THE SITUATION OR OUR POSITION. I
JUDGE THAT SILVEIRA IS QUITE COMFORTABLE WITH THE POST-
QUITO SITUATION. DOMESTICALLY THE QUITO OUTCOME WAS CONSIDERED
SATISFACTORY. HE FEELS UNDER NO PRESSURE--EXCEPT
TO THE EXTENT THAT OUR APPROACHES ACT AS PRESSURE--TO
MOVE OFF THE QUITO DIME, ABSENT CUBAN ASSURANCES, AND, ON
THE CONTRARY, IMPLIES THAT PRESSURE IS COMING FROM THE
HARD-LINE COUNTRIES TO STAND STILL. FURTHER, SILVEIRA
PROBABLY IS NOT AT ALL ADVERSE TO HAVING ARGENTINA
EMBARRASSED BY CONTINUING DIFFICULTIES OVER CUBA IN CONNECTION
WITH THE BA MEETING.

3. WE SEE NO INHERENT INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN BRAZIL'S
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READINESS TO SUPPORT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONSENSUS

TO AMEND THE RIO TREATY TO PERMIT A SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE TO LIFT SANCTIONS AND ITS PRESENT OPPOSITION TO TRANSLATING THAT CONSENSUS INTO IMMEDIATE ACTION ON THE CUBAN QUESTION. THE BRAZILIANS WOULD ARGUE, I BELIEVE, THAT THE AMENDMENT ARISING FROM THE CONSENSUS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE NORMAL RATIFICATION PROCESS AND THAT THAT PROCESS SHOULD NOT BE PRE-EMPTED BY APPLICATION OF THE CONSENSUS NOW.

4. CONCERNING PARA 2 OF REFTTEL A, WE INTERPRET SOUTO MAIOR'S REFERENCE IN REFTTEL C AS BEING ADDRESSED NOT ONLY TO BRAZILIAN ABSTENTION FROM OR NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A CONSENSUS ON THE PROPOSED PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AT BUENOS AIRES (AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A CONSENSUS, EVEN IF A VOTE IS NOT TAKEN, WOULD REQUIRE, IT SEEMS TO ME, A DEFINITION OF POSITION AKIN TO A VOTE) BUT ALSO TO ABSTENTION ON THE PROPOSED VOTE IN APRIL IN WASHINGTON IN THE O/C. SILVEIRA WAS ALSO MADE AWARE OF THE LIEVANO FORMULA MENTIONED IN PARA 1(B) OF REFTTEL D, AND THAT POSSIBILITY WAS ALSO UNDOUBTEDLY ENCOMPASSED IN SOUTO MAIOR'S STATEMENT.

5. IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE PROSPECTS OF INDUCING SOME MOVEMENT IN WHAT APPEARS TO US TO BE A CURRENTLY FIRM GOB POSITION, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE IN TIME FOR THE MEETING WITH SILVEIRA: (A) UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON THE CURRENT STATE-OF-PLAY, PARTICULARLY THE PROGRESS OF ANY SOUNDINGS OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO MEET THE REQUEST REPORTED IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 1 OF REFTTEL C: (B) ANY FURTHER ARGUMENTS TO ADDRESS SILVEIRA'S CONCERN THAT THE PROPOSED PROCEDURE IS AN ARTFUL AND UNSEEMLY GIMMICK TO GET AROUND THE NORMAL AMENDMENT/RATIFICATION OF THE RIO TREATY: AND (C) AN ELABORATION OF PARA 2 OF REFTTEL A, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE OBSERVATIONS IN PARA 4 OF THIS TELEGRAM.
CRIMMINS

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